DOCKET NO.: AVSI-0010P1/VGXP-0004

Application No.: 10/657,725

Office Action Dated: March 15, 2007

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) <u>A An electro-kinetic</u> device ("EKD") for use in a procedure for electroporation of cells of a selected tissue to facilitate the introduction of macromolecules, comprising:

an electrode assembly having a plurality of needle electrodes for penetrating <u>a</u> the selected tissue;

a current waveform generator in electrical communication with the plurality of needle electrodes for applying a constant-current pulse pattern between any plurality of electrodes;

a power source in electrical communication with the current waveform generator; and

a controller in communication with the current waveform generator and the power source, wherein the controller manages the electroporation procedure <u>and applies electrical energy to the plurality of needle electrodes for a time and under conditions effective to expose adjacent tissue to a substantially constant electrical current.</u>

- 2. (Currently Amended) The electro-kinetic device ("EKD") of claim 1, further comprising a waveform logger in communication with the controller for sampling and recording electroporation data related to the constant-current pulse pattern.
- 3. (Currently Amended) The electro-kinetic device ("EKD") of claim 1, further comprising an impedance tester in electrical communication with the plurality of needle electrodes for determining resistance.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The electro-kinetic device ("EKD") of claim 1, further comprising an input device for inputting commands into the controller.

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5. (Currently Amended) The electro-kinetic device ("EKD") of claim 4, wherein the input device is a keypad.

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- 6. (Currently Amended) The electro-kinetic device ("EKD") of claim 1, further comprising a status-reporting device for reporting status information during the electroporation procedure.
- 7. (Currently Amended) The electro-kinetic device ("EKD") of claim 6, wherein the status-reporting device is an information display panel, an audible notification, a light-emitting diode ("LED"), or a combination thereof.
- 8. (Currently Amended) The electro-kinetic device ("EKD") of claim 1, further comprising a communications port in communication with the controller for transmitting electroporation data related to the constant-current pulse pattern to external electronic devices.
- 9. (Currently Amended) The electro-kinetic device ("EKD") of claim 8, wherein the communications port is an optical serial communications port.
- 10. (Currently Amended) The electro-kinetic device ("EKD") of claim 8, wherein the communications port is an infrared port.
- 11. (Currently Amended) The electro-kinetic device ("EKD") of claim 1, further comprising memory in communication with the controller for storing the electroporation data related to the constant-current pulse pattern.
- 12. (Currently Amended) The electro-kinetic device ("EKD") of claim 11, wherein the memory is non-volatile.
- 13. (Currently Amended) The electro-kinetic device ("EKD") of claim 1, wherein the power source is a battery.

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14. (Currently Amended) The electro-kinetic device ("EKD") of claim 1, wherein the

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electrode assembly further comprises a handle to which having a mount structure for

fastening the plurality of needle electrodes are fastened to the handle.

15. (Currently Amended) The electro-kinetic device ("EKD") of claim 14, wherein the

electrode assembly further comprises an activation switch mounted on the handle and in

communication with the controller.

16. (Currently Amended) The electro-kinetic device ("EKD") of claim 1, wherein the

electrode assembly further comprises a status-reporting device for reporting the status of the

electroporation procedure.

17. (Currently Amended) The electro-kinetic device ("EKD") of claim 16, wherein the

status-reporting device is a light-emitting diode ("LED").

18. (Currently Amended) The electro-kinetic device ("EKD") of claim 1, wherein the

plurality of needle electrodes is in defines a circular array.

19. (Currently Amended) The electro-kinetic device ("EKD") of claim 18, wherein the

circular array is about 1.0 cm in diameter.

20-26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) A method for electroporating cells of a selected tissue to

facilitate the introduction of macromolecules, comprising:

inserting a plurality of needle electrodes having a central channel into the

selected tissue;

measuring the resistance of the plurality of needle electrodes to determine if a

circuit can safely be established through the selected tissue;

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injecting a solution of the macromolecules by passing a needle through the central channel of the plurality of needle electrodes;

generating electrical energy a constant-current pulse pattern between any plurality of electrodes using a software-based application;

applying the constant-current pulse pattern the electrical energy to the plurality of needle electrodes for a time and under conditions effective to expose adjacent tissue to a substantially constant electrical current.; and

electronically recording data related to the constant current pulse pattern.

28. (New) The method of claim 27, further comprising electronically recording data related to the <u>electroporation</u>.